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Wednesday, May 4, 2011
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News worth sharing.

▶ Principal dancer Tara Birtwhistle practises with a cast member during a media call for The Ecstasy of Rita Joe.

ELISHA DACEY/METRO

Her swan song

The Ecstasy of Rita Joe is part of Bright Lights, Big City, the Royal Winnpeg Ballet's current show, running until May 8 at the Centennial Concert Hall

Metro Winnipeg columnist Jared Story talks to RWB principal dancer Tara Birtwhistle, who is retiring after this week's show. See his conversation with her in tomorrow's paper

Iggy resigns

So if you can't beat 'em, join 'em?

Liberals talking of a merger with the NDP {page 4}

Royal gossip

Kate and Wills might head to Hollywood

Newlyweds will likely hang with power couple Posh and Becks {page 9}

1 news

Canada's youngest-ever elected MP won't need that golf course summer job after all. Scan code for story.

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After securing his long-sought majority, Prime Minister Stephen Harper says he has no surprises planned. Video at metronews.ca.

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Keep cars off dikes: Flood officials

Basements in Eriksdale, Man., have flooded after a lift station was overwhelmed by the rising waters around the town.

Manitoba flood officials said pumps have been added to the station in an effort to stem the flow while flooding is assessed at the town's hospital and personal-care home.

Meanwhile, cottage owners at Oak Lake suffered deck damage after a dike was overtopped over the weekend. The dike is being repaired, and dikes along the Assiniboine River and its tributaries are being monitored and repaired when necessary, said Steve Topping, executive director of Manitoba Water Stewardship.

"Members of the public should not be on or around the dikes," said Topping. "Quads, ATVs or other vehicles could cause significant damage to the dikes and put nearby homes at risk."

Lake levels in Manitoba remain high and are rising, including Dauphin Lake. Topping said rural municipalities around the lake are being warned that sandbagging may be needed in coming weeks to protect property.

More than 1,800 people remain evacuated from their homes, while more than 700 roads have been affected by or closed by flooding.

Several rivers have crested or are expected to crest again, albeit at lower levels than before. The Red River is expected to crest in Winnipeg today or Thursday. ELISHA DACEY

It'll take a village cop to curb crime in Osborne

So says retired officer, who urges 'constant harassment' of thugs
Says area cop is key to fighting crime

JAMES TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

If Osborne Village is to deal with its problems of petty crime, panhandling and drug-pushing, maintaining a constant police presence there may be necessary.

Or so suggests Bruce Day, a retired 20-year Winnipeg police constable who capped his career with five years as the community cop in the area. Over his time, he said there was a "marked decrease" in crime.

The key, Day said, is to have law-enforcement constantly in the faces of vagrants, thugs and dealers.

"The calls dropped in half," he said of his experience. "The incidents of petty crime, drug dealers, dropped right in half. It didn't have to be me — it could be any policeman," he said.

A 51-page petition signed by area residents and business owners was placed in the hands of city officials last evening.

It calls for Mayor Sam Katz and police Chief Keith McCaskill to devote more police resources to the neighbourhood, citing a spike in criminal activity detracting from the perception of safety there.

Day said business leaders in the area could advocate for a uniformed neighbourhood watch similar to ones used downtown and in the West End.

He suspects police adjusted resource levels after noticing area crime was down, only to have it re-emerge when police weren't around as often.

JAMES TURNER/METRO

▶ A Winnipeg police officer and a city employee talk near Fort Rouge Park yesterday. An area safety committee has identified the riverside greenspace and playground as a place where seedy elements congregate.

Man set on fire at fuelling company

An employee was taken to hospital after he was accidently set on fire at a local aviation fuelling company.

Winnipeg police service Const. Jason Michalyshen said police were called to PLH Aviation Services on Monday around 3 p.m. after the incident.

"I can confirm the victim was a 52-year-old male and he was taken to hospital suffering from burns," said Michalyshen. He said because the company falls under federal jurisdiction, he had no other information.

Christine Alongi, spokesperson for the Winnipeg Airports Authority, said their first responders team, in conjunction with the Winnipeg Fire and Paramedic rescue service, did go out to the scene at 2:55 p.m.

"It was in no way ... anything to do with the new terminal," said Alongi, noting initial media reports speculated it had.

Phone calls made by Metro to PLH Aviation Services yesterday were not returned by press deadline. ELISHA DACEY

News in brief

Schreyer arson trial on hold

WOLSELEY AREA. A trial into arson allegations against the adult son of a former Manitoba premier and Canadian governor general has been put off to an unknown date.

Toban Schreyer, 35, has pleaded not guilty after being arrested and charged following a November 2008 fire at a Wolseley-area home.

However issues have arisen prompting the judge in the case to put the trial off. The Crown did not object to the delay, citing a need to be fair to Schreyer, the son of Ed Schreyer.

"I don't think under the circumstances we can fairly proceed," prosecutor Tim Chudey told court. JAMES TURNER

Finders. Keepers

▶ Kent Brown, 20, with his metal detector at Fisher Park in Riverview, yesterday.

JAMES TURNER/METRO

Treasure hunt

With the last of the snow hopefully behind us, Kent Brown was out yesterday morning in hopes of finding buried gems from the winter. The former coin collector says he's boiled the art of metal detecting down to a science — netting him silver pendants, coins and other valuable items.

Tip line urged for city staff

- City employees currently supposed to go to manager to disclose fraud
- This could be limiting complaints due to fear of reprisal: Report

JAMES TURNER
@METRONEWS.CA

The City of Winnipeg could be exposed to corruption, fraud and waste because it doesn't provide an anonymous tip line for employees, the municipal audit department reports.

Although tips received through a hotline have proven to be the best way of detecting and rooting out fraud, the city doesn't use one, the department says in a report to council.

Since 2007, only three complaints have been made, while in Edmonton, for example, there were 44 made in 2009 alone.

That same year in Winnipeg, there were none.

"This comparison leads us to believe that it is likely that a number of possible fraud and waste incidents are going unreported," the report states.

The department is recommending the city spend about $25,000 on setting up a 24-hour fraud and waste hotline, to be managed by a third-party. The audit department would probe any allegations made.

Mayor Sam Katz said the proposal had a "potential positive value" for warding off future fraud. "Very seldom do I not support the recommendations made by the auditor," he said.

"There's always the possibility (fraud) could happen here."
MAYOR SAM KATZ

Fraud reports

Total 2009 complaints in other cities with anonymous fraud lines:

- **Toronto** 677
- **Ottawa** 165
- **Calgary** 52
- **Edmonton** 44

Types of incidents reported elsewhere:

- Overcharging for work
- Misuse of city property and funds
- Theft
- Irregular benefit claims
- Conflicts of interest

JAMES TURNER/METRO

▶ Half of anonymous tip calls in other cities happen outside of regular business hours, Winnipeg's auditor says.

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NDP SWEEP

Barely legal voter is now MP

▶ Pierre-Luc Dusseault

They were a motley crew of underdogs with virtually no political experience.

One of them, a 19-year-old, was not only voting in his first election but also became the youngest person ever elected to Canada's Parliament.

Pierre-Luc Dusseault, a 19-year-old student of applied politics at the Université de Sherbrooke, now becomes the youngest member of Parliament in Canadian history, according to the House of Commons website.

He surpasses Claude-Andre Lachance, a Trudeau Liberal who was elected at age 20 in 1974.

Two others won francophone ridings despite being accused of struggling in French. One spent a week vacationing in Las Vegas during the campaign.

Many admitted to having low expectations when the writ was dropped.

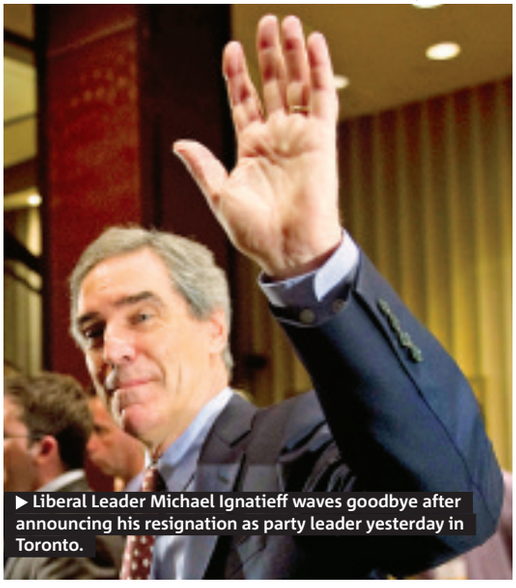
Yet they were among dozens of unlikely Quebec NDP candidates who won Monday. Many will bring impressive backgrounds into Parliament.

Among the newcomers are a former diplomat, a prominent Cree leader and an ex-Liberal MP once considered a shoo-in for a cabinet post.

The McGill Daily reported yesterday that four McGill University students also won for the NDP on Monday night. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ignatieff resigns, party left in ruins

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS


▶ Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff waves goodbye after announcing his resignation as party leader yesterday in Toronto.

▶ Iggy blames Tory attack ads for demise ▶ NDP merger talks floating

Debate over the Liberal party's future began raging even before Michael Ignatieff announced yesterday that he will resign as leader.

Toronto MP Bob Rae, a likely contender to succeed Ignatieff, triggered much of the talk with a blunt assessment that the decimated party can't avoid discussing the possibility of merging with the ascendant NDP.

Ignatieff weighed in against the idea but acknowledged he won't be calling the shots after leading the Liberals to a bloodbath Monday, in which he even lost his seat.

"I will not be remaining as leader of this party," Ignatieff told red-eyed supporters during an emotional news conference in Toronto.

"I will work out with the party officials the best timing for a departure."

He indicated that he expects his successor will likely be chosen in the fall. THE CANADIAN PRESS

"It's hard to see how the discussion could be avoided."
BOB RAE, ON A POSSIBLE MERGER BETWEEN THE LIBERALS AND NDP

Transparency not an issue for most: Baird

JESSICA SMITH
@METRONEWS.CA

Conservative supporters at John Baird's victory party in Ottawa West-Nepean said they're "overjoyed" at the party's showing in the election, but they don't want to be named in print.

"I think this goes to the brilliance of Stephen Harper, John Baird, Jason Kenney and Scott Reid," one said.

But when he learned that media wasn't supposed to be talking to him he asked that his name, which he'd given earlier, not be used in print.

Metroland Media was told "no interviews will be permitted with supporters in attendance," in an email sent by director of communications Chris McCluskey.

Asked what that ban means for transparency in his riding, Baird brushed off the concern.

"Well you know there's been a lot of discussion about that. I think the big issues for the Canadian people in election were jobs and the economy," Baird said.

"These are the big priorities in Canada. I think some in the mainstream media put an unusual focus on issues of that nature and I think it's not the priority of the Canadian public," he added.

LEON SWITZER/FOR METRO

▶ John Baird celebrates with supporters after his election win Monday night.

"These past two days have been great for the cause of democracy and liberty — the killing of Osama bin Laden and the election of the Conservative party to a majority."
TORY SUPPORTER, NAME WITHHELD

Elections Canada still counting ballots

Election 2011 is over, but the vote-counting is not — nor necessarily is the final tally of winners and losers.

Elections Canada says as many as 27 of the country's 71,513 polls did not immediately report results for a variety of reasons.

Elections Canada spokeswoman Diane Benson says that's not unusual and could be attributable to the remoteness of polling areas or simple forgetfulness in reporting the numbers.

The results will likely be coming in through today as officials return to work and will have no impact on the overall result of the election.

Preliminary results show 61.4 per cent of eligible voters cast ballots, compared to 58.8 per cent in 2008.

The 2011 election voter turnout is also greater than occurred in the 2000 and 2004 elections, when 61.2 per cent and 60.9 per cent voted, respectively. But Benson points out the 61.4 per cent is preliminary and may fall a few decimal points due to the expansion of the voters list that occurs on election day.

The final voting results could change in the margins because of two judicial recounts.

One is in Etobicoke Centre, where Liberal incumbent Borys Wrzesnewskyj trailed Tory Ted Opitz by 26 votes, 21,635 to 21,661.

The other recount will be in Nipissing-Timiskaming in northern Ontario, where Conservative Jay Aspin led sitting Liberal Anthony Rota by 14 votes, 15,507 to 15,493. THE CANADIAN PRESS

For more election coverage, go online to metronews.ca

Could Twitter have predicted election?

Now that the election's over, analysts are trying to gauge what impact, if any, Twitter and other social media outlets had on the outcome.

Digital public-affairs strategist Mark Blevis says Twitter likely didn't swing undecided voters because most "tweeps" already knew how they were going to vote.

He adds that Twitter newbies likely got overwhelmed by all the tweet traffic and tuned out.

Tom Vassos of the University of Toronto says the NDP had the most buzz before election day, while his analysis also shows a lot of early negative Twitter sentiment about the Bloc Québécois. THE CANADIAN PRESS

White House seeks answers from Pakistan

U.S. presses Pakistani government on Osama bin Laden's benefactors ◗ Military intelligence comes under scrutiny

Congress may consider cutting the almost $1.3 billion in annual U.S. aid to Pakistan if it turns out the Islamabad government knew where Osama bin Laden was hiding, the head of the Senate Intelligence Committee said yesterday.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, a Democrat, said she wants more details from CIA director Leon Panetta and others about the Pakistani government's role.

Incredulous lawmakers are pressing Pakistan for answers to two simple questions: What did its army and intelligence agents know of bin Laden's whereabouts and when did they know it?

Mission improbable

The White House says Osama bin Laden was unarmed when he was confronted by U.S. commandos at his Pakistani hideout.

- **Injured** One of bin Laden's wives tried to rush the U.S. assaulters and was shot in the leg.
- **Success** The daring Navy Seal team code-named their target Geronimo.

The al-Qaida terrorist leader behind the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks against the United States lived and died in a massive, fortified compound built in 2005 and located on the outskirts of Abbottabad, about 50 kilometres from the capital of Islamabad.

It stood less than a kilometre from the Kakul Military Academy and close to various army regiments.

Amid the high praise for the successful U.S. military operation, congressional Republicans and Democrats questioned whether bin Laden was hiding in plain sight, with Pakistani military and intelligence either unaware of his location or wilfully ignoring his presence to protect him.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Royal couple take home over honeymoon

It's back to normal routine for Prince William and Kate Middleton as Britain's most glamorous royal couple is spending this week on an island — just not the kind of island everyone expected.

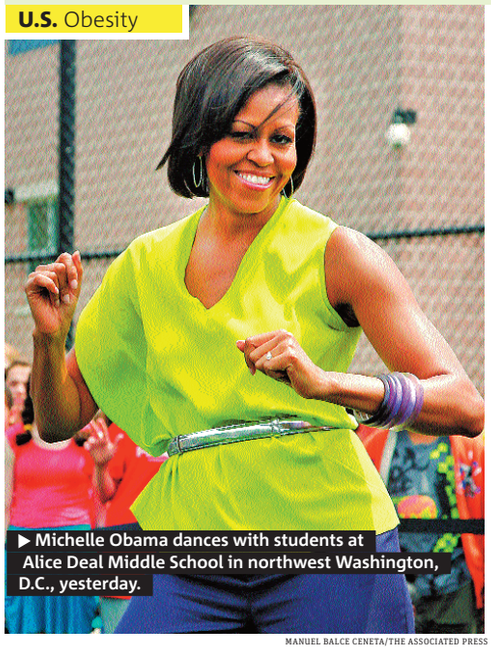
It's not a private honeymoon retreat in the Caribbean or the Seychelles, but Anglesey, a wind-swept spot off northwest Wales where Prince William works as a search-and-rescue helicopter pilot at the Royal Air Force Valley base.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

48

The island measures just 48 kilometres from one end to the other.

U.S. Obesity



▶ Michelle Obama dances with students at Alice Deal Middle School in northwest Washington, D.C., yesterday.

MANUEL BALCE CENETA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

First lady is first to move

U.S. President Barack Obama's wife, Michelle Obama, unveiled her national public awareness campaign, "Let's Move," last year with an aim to eliminate childhood obesity within a generation.

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China 1.9 ¢/min	Lebanon 7.9 ¢/min	Trinidad 4.9 ¢/min	Colombia from 3.9 ¢/min	Mexico from 1.9 ¢/min	U.A.E. 14.9 ¢/min
Cuba 89.9 ¢/min	Pakistan 5.9 ¢/min	U.K. 2.9 ¢/min	El Salvador 9.9 ¢/min	Philippines 11.9 ¢/min	Vietnam 4.9 ¢/min
Germany 1.9 ¢/min	Poland 1.9 ¢/min	Serbia 7.9 ¢/min	India 2.9 ¢/min	Russia from 1.9 ¢/min	

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Short-lived relief for markets over Tory majority

Investors move on to more pressing matters Like Mideast turmoil, the U.S. economy, European debt ...

A business-friendly Conservative majority government and the near obliteration of the separatist Bloc Québécois gave financial markets some cause for comfort.

But the news failed to inspire gains on the Toronto stock market, which tumbled almost 250 points yesterday as investors looked beyond the victory and focused on headwinds facing equity markets.

Resource stocks led declines as a stronger U.S. dollar pressured oil and gold prices, which in turn pushed the Canadian dollar down.

Traders were relieved to see a majority win in Monday's election since it removes a degree of political uncertainty. But analysts said there were plenty of other things for investors to worry about.

"The Mideast is in turmoil, the U.S. is in turmoil and probably will continue to be as it figures out it has a long-term economic problem. And you have the European debt crisis," said John O'Connell, chief executive of Davis Rea Ltd.

The election cleared the way for the federal budget to be passed. Observers expect that the Conservatives will retable the budget introduced by Jim Flaherty this spring.

Among its provisions, small businesses would receive a credit of up to $1,000 to offset increases in employment-insurance premiums, and companies would be allowed to write off the cost of new equipment in just two years, faster than normally allowed.

But corporate Canada could face higher bills. The government had planned to make changes in the way partnerships work that previously allowed for the deferral of corporate tax. Also on the agenda were changes to the rules governing the way dividends are paid. The measures would boost government revenue. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Telecommerce

The Conservatives are expected to allow more foreign ownership of Canada's telecom industry to keep it competitive.

- **Philip Huang,** an analyst with financial-services firm UBS, says the government can push for relaxed foreign-ownership restrictions without support from opposition parties. He predicts it will move on this by the end of the year.
- **The relaxed restrictions** could apply to telecom operators with less than 10 per cent market share, Huang says, which would benefit new wireless players by giving them better access to capital.

Wheel. Dealer

▶ Users of Bixi Toronto will have year-round access to 1,000 bicycles at 80 stations downtown. Bixi was ranked 19th in Time magazine's 50 Best Inventions of 2008.

PAT HEWITT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto cyclists are whistling Bixi

Bixi, the bicycle-sharing system that turned Montreal into a city on wheels, rolled into Toronto yesterday. A runaway success, Bixi launched in May 2009, and within a year had expanded to 5,000 bicycles and 400 stations in downtown Montreal. With systems in 10 cities worldwide, the company last year reported revenue of $33 million and net income of $7 million.

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

TSX	Dollar
– 242.14 (13,692.37)	– 0.19¢ (104.98¢ US)

Oil	Natural gas 1,000 cu ft	Gold contracts
– $2.47 US ($111.05 US)	$4.738 US (– 2.5¢ US)	$1,540.40 US (– $16.70 US)

Ford tops in sales

Ford Canada has reported its best April since 2000, making it the country's top-selling automaker last month. Canadian sales rose nine per cent to 25,548 vehicles from 23,441 in the same month last year. Ford saw car sales rise 33 per cent, while truck sales were up three per cent as higher gas prices drove some consumers to make more fuel-efficient choices.

Meanwhile, sales at Honda Canada fell six per cent to 12,269 units, as the car maker dealt with parts shortages since the March 11 earthquake.

Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. said April sales have broken its all-time record for a single month, with 14,267 units sold, a gain of 14.2 per cent over last year.

Volvo Canada also reported double-digit growth in April, with 705 vehicles sold, up 11.4 per cent from March. THE CANADIAN PRESS

RAIL SAFETY WEEK | MAY 2 - MAY 8, 2011
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PICTURE LAB RATS WITH HEADPHONES

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO

What scientists do all day is kind of a mystery.

We imagine they spend their days searching for a cure for cancer or watching the polar ice caps melt.

Not all of them, it turns out. A team of scientists at the University of Kentucky listens to tunes all day.

Hey, they're just like us!

Before you start imagining a bunch of guys with lumpy sweaters and sensible shoes gettin' jiggy with The Black Eyed Peas, remember, these are scientists and there's a serious point to all this.

And that is: After running three decades of hit songs through the computer, Dr. Nathan DeWall, a psychologist at the above-mentioned grooveyard of golden goodies, has discovered a significant trend toward narcissism and hostility in popular music.

"... Dr. Nathan DeWall, a psychologist at the above-mentioned grooveyard of golden goodies, has discovered a significant trend toward narcissism and hostility in popular music."

Not sure he needs a research lab for that ... all he really needs is an iPod and Eminem's Greatest Hits, but he's on to something.

Thirty years ago, everyone was having a good time (Kool & The Gang: Celebration); racial harmony (Paul McCartney and Stevie Wonder: Ebony And Ivory); and togetherness (Sister Sledge: We Are Family).

These days, forget about peace and love, it's just about me. Or Justin Timberlake ("I'm bringing sexy back"), or Beyoncé ("It's blazin'. You watch me in amazement"), and Fergie ("It's personal, myself and I.")

As for the bred-in-the-hood surliness of Eminem and his posse, DeWall factored in a control for hip hop so those lyrics don't unfairly dominate his study.

He discovered that although pop music may be dominated by barely weaned puppies like Justin Bieber, it's not all love songs to Dora The Explorer. No one is feeling the love much these days, unless it's love of self. Exhibit A: Keri Hilson's "All eyes on me when I walk in, no question that this girl's a 10."

It's hard to believe things can change so much in a single generation, but guess what happens when the only subject taught in school is self-esteem? Then when you go to college, it's Self-Esteem 101, Advanced Self-Esteem 201, etc.

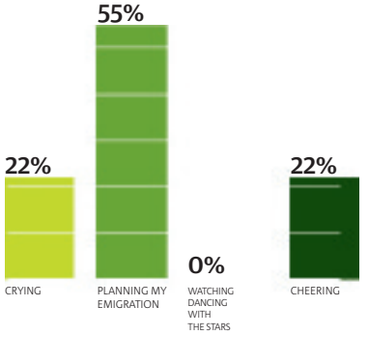
Ergo: Pop self-esteem sells. I don't need a scientist to tell me that. In fact, I don't need anyone to tell me what to think. I'm the greatest writer in the world, and I'll think whatever I feel like thinking. And if you don't like that, remember Cee Lo Green's message in his 2010 Billboard Top 100 hit, F--- You.

Er, I can't actually do that. This is a family newspaper.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

metro life panel **Register at metrolifepanel.ca and take the quick poll**

How did you spend election night?



Local tweets

- **@AshesTo Ash:** Waking up in lipstick with my pants still on. I win.
- **@erin_stss Erin S:** I hope the grunge look comes back in style because my jeans have holes in them, and my shoe just broke and I can't afford to replace them.
- **@buzzbishop:** Looks like it's probably the Winnipeg Thrashers next year, not Yotes.
- **@spencerkeys:** In Winnipeg for a client event: it's warm and I haven't been swept away by floods, mosquitoes or gangs. All my preconceptions are wrong!
- **@bryanbeingbored:** Inception got nothing on Winnipeg weather. Pretty much all the seasons combined in the span of a couple days.
- **@WinnipegHarvest:** McGavin's Bread is donating a fresh loaf of bread to Winnipeg Harvest when you add $1.50 to your bill.
- **@EricaGlasier:** the true pothole test would definitely be in Winnipeg. Also, Wolseleyites would demand it be made of hemp. ;)

Worth mentioning

NEW YORK. The best place in the world to be a mom is Norway, where maternal and child mortality rates are low, women's life expectancy and years in school are high, and the average maternity leave is about one year, a new study measuring the well-being of mothers and babies shows.

Australia and Iceland join Norway at the top of Save The Children's 12th annual Mothers Index, released yesterday. Canada ranks 20th, the United States places 31st and Afghanistan is last.

The international non-profit group's ranking analyzes the maternal and child indicators and other published information of 164 countries.

The survey considers Afghanistan the worst place to be a mother, with women having a life expectancy of 45 years — the world's lowest — and one of every 11 women dying in childbirth. One of every five children in the country doesn't live to age five.

By contrast, a typical Norwegian woman lives to be 83 years old, and just one in 175 will lose a child before his or her fifth birthday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cartoon by Michael de Adder

WEIRD NEWS

Fanning the flames of transit rage

Tempers can flare when your morning commute turns into a delay induced sit-in.

But while many of us tear up our tickets, tweet our frustrations and glare at the teenager blaring his iPod who keeps kicking the seat, a group of Argentinean travellers went a few steps further when it decided to burn down its train.

The rail roasting was ignited Monday, during the morning rush hour commute that brings workers from the suburbs into Buenos Aires. But instead of being glided into the city, passengers were left stranded for 30 minutes after a train derailment.

That's when the rage set in and eight carriages at three commuter stations went up in flames, with violence quickly spreading from the Haedo stop to the nearby stations of Ramos Mejia and Cuidadela.

The angry mob of commuters also forcefully removed train drivers and an inspector from a train and stole ticket boxes from one station. Three passengers were arrested over the incidents, federal police deputy Chief Hugo Matzkin told the Buenos Aires Herald. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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2 scene

Scene in brief

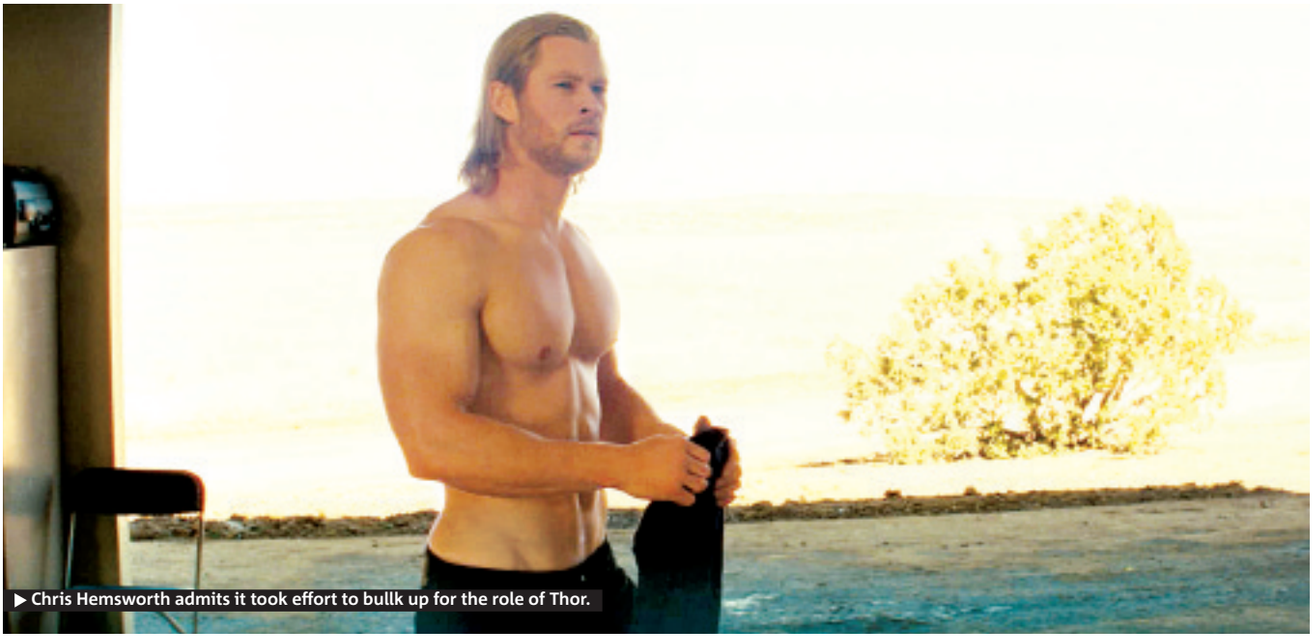
Zach Galifianakis leads the 15th annual Webby Awards with four awards for his Between Two Ferns With Zach Galifianakis Web series.

Other winners include Lisa Kudrow, Arcade Fire and Justin Bieber.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Book of Mormon gets a leading 14 Tony Award nominations; The Scottsboro Boys gets 12.

HANDOUT



▶ Chris Hemsworth admits it took effort to bullk up for the role of Thor.

Thor looks good in 3-D

Director Kenneth Branagh says the most important part of the film was casting Thor

NED EHRBAR
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN HOLLYWOOD

Tasked with bringing Thor from the comic book pages to the big screen, director Kenneth Branagh couldn't help but feel a bit daunted.

The scale of the undertaking couldn't help but make you feel that way, he says. "It was very, very challenging, but that was a part of what was attractive," says Branagh.

Luckily, producer and Marvel honcho Kevin Feige was there to keep him on task: "On Day One, I asked Kevin, 'What should I do first?'" Branagh remembers. "And he said, 'The one thing you need to do right now — and until it's finished — is cast Thor. That's it. Just cast Thor.'"

Not an easy task as it turns out, though as the story for the film developed, Branagh found himself circling back to a young actor who had read early in the casting process: Chris Hemsworth.

"You're looking for really a lot tied up in one bundle," Branagh says of the character, the Norse god of thunder who is cast out of Asgard by his father, Odin.

"At one point we said, 'We should go back and meet that very handsome Australian lad who came in.' There was this required quality of an innate, charming confidence that did not spill over into arrogance that meant he would stand up in a scene with Anthony Hopkins."

Of course that's not all Hemsworth had going for him: "When he takes his shirt off there's obviously a wow factor that cannot be denied," Branagh says.

Bulking up enough to earn those accolades wasn't easy for 27-year-old Hemsworth — though it wasn't the weight-lifting that gave him the most trouble.

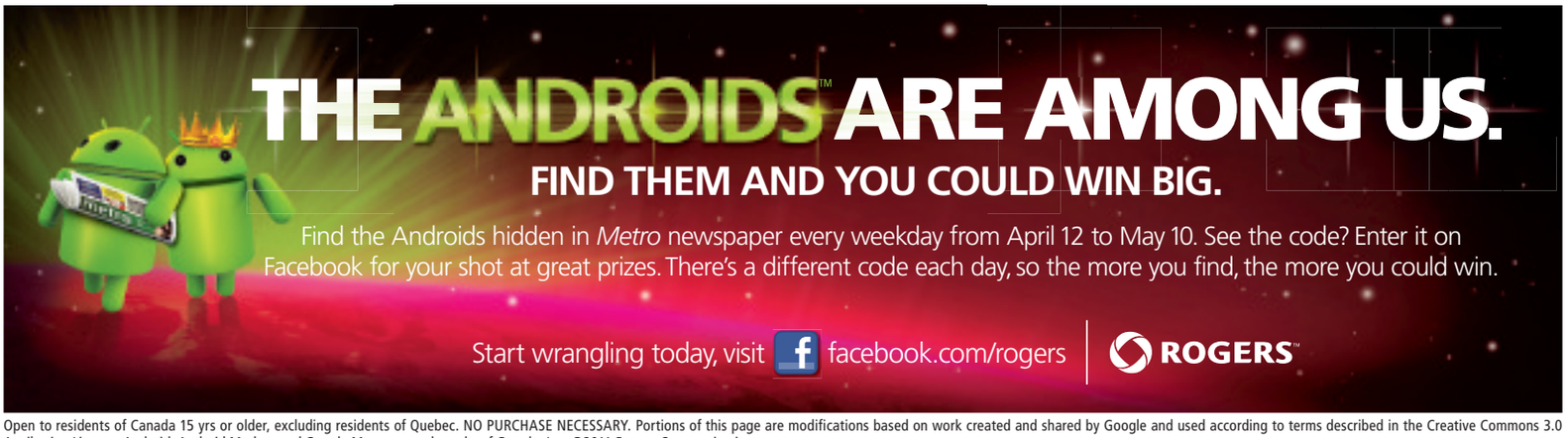
"The most uncomfortable thing was the eating," Hemsworth says. "I just don't naturally sit at that weight, so I'd have to force-feed myself with ... 20 chicken breasts and rice and steak. All very boring, sort of plain things. That was the most exhausting part of the whole film."

What was daunting for Hemsworth was working with the veteran Hopkins. The younger actor wasn't prepared for Hopkins' brand of humour.

"I remember being on set our first day with Tony and going through the rehearsal, and Tony saying, 'Is that how you're going to do it?' and then going, 'He's kidding, right?'" Hemsworth remembers. "That's a big thing I learned from Tony — have a good time doing it. What should've been the most intimidating experience walking in was the most enjoyable."

As it turns out, Thor wasn't Hemsworth's favourite choice when it comes to superheroes — not that he isn't thrilled to play him.

"I would run around the house pretending to be (Superman). At some stage when I was a kid I also had a Robin costume ... A nice pair of green underwear and a yellow shirt and red cape."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Royal couple may head for Hollywood

Looks like William and Kate will drop by to see the Beckham clan

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Prince William and his new wife may be heading to Hollywood, according to royal family expert Andrew Morton.

"Royal aides have penciled in a two day visit to Hollywood at the end of their tour of Canada which takes place in late June and early July," Morton reports.

The visit would mark the first overseas visit as a married couple for the new Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Morton says it's likely that royal wedding guests David and Victoria Beckham would be involved in the L.A. visit.

METRO

Sheen rejects offer from Rob Lowe

Rob Lowe, who himself has been sober for 21 years, says he's offered help to longtime friend Charlie Sheen, but the offer wasn't exactly well-received. "I love Charlie deeply, always have. I've always wanted him to be healthy, happy and together. But he's doing it his way for better or worse," Lowe tells Popeater. "I say, 'Charlie come my way.' ... To put it mildly, he's not interested."

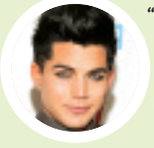
METRO

Celebrity tweets

"I just made a kickass chocolate mousse cake, in preparation for my local baking competition."

@lilyroseallen

@adamlambert



"I shaved. Y'all can relax now. Ha-ha"

@jimmykimmel

"I really hope bin laden didn't get reincarnated as one of Mariah Carey's babies."

Wedding will have to weight

Jessica Simpson is excited about marrying fiancé Eric Johnson, but she reportedly won't do it until she's dropped a few more pounds, according to Hollyscoop. "Jess and Eric are happier than ever and enjoying a little too much of the good life," a source says. "They were hoping for an early summer wedding, but pushed it back so they both have a chance to shed extra pounds."

The source explains that Simpson has already lost 20 pounds thanks to a strict diet and workout regimen, but she still wants to drop another 20 pounds.

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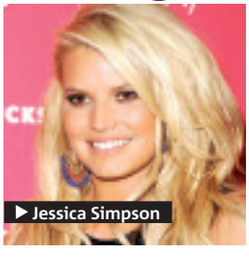

Looks like Pussycat Doll has X Factor

While there's still no word from Simon Cowell on the list of judges for the U.S. edition of the X Factor, Pussycat Dolls singer Nicole Scherzinger is reportedly set to be the host of the new show, according to People magazine.

Scherzinger has some experience with the franchise, as she was a guest judge on the British version last year. While Cowell hasn't made any official announcements yet, he's previously expressed his affinity for Scherzinger: "I absolutely adore her. She's gorgeous and ruthlessly ambitious," he said.

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- Skilled in print, online and mobile graphic design and animation, comprehensive and complete software knowledge
- Software proficiency including, QuarkXPress, InDesign, Adobe Acrobat/Distiller, Flash, Photoshop, Illustrator, Image Ready and Dreamweaver
- Proficient on both PC and MAC platforms
- Knowledge in optimizing images for web and mobile (optimal file sizes, file formats etc) while maintaining small file sizes
- Basic understanding of HTML and CSS, ability to prep files for print production
- Expert in file stuffing (.sitx, .sit, .sea, .zip) and FTP experience
- Professional, personable, approachable with great communication skills (both verbal and written)
- Ability to thrive in a deadline driven, creative and dynamic environment with strong a attention to detail (typography, copy, grammar, layout, images, colour etc)
- Ability to thrive under pressure in a fast paced, multi-faceted and deadline driven environment
- Must be a quick problem-solver, who initiates projects and who takes a pro-active/smart approach

IInterested individuals who possess the skills described above are requested to submit their resume and cover letter via email to hr@metronews.ca no later than May 20, 2011. PLEASE QUOTE: "Graphic Designer -Winnipeg" in the subject line. All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metro

3 life

Travel in brief

Whale watching companies are predicting a successful season this year in the Strait of Georgia after numerous orca sightings in recent weeks. The whale watching season kicked off April 1 and runs until October.
On the web: vancouverwhalewatch.com and seabreezeadventures.ca
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Travelling to run: Marathoners' vacation plans often tied to location of next race

JANINE FALCON/METRO

▶ Relax in a hammock at the Excellence Playa Mujeres, in the Mayan Riviera in Mexico.

A girls getaway to Mexico

Not all resorts are equal — some offer that something extra special to give you a relaxing vacation ◐ Everything you need for a girls holiday

JANINE FALCON
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

Some people can relax quickly by hopping a flight to a random all-inclusive beach vacation.

Others, I found out on a recent girls' getaway trip to Cancun and the Riviera Maya, need a few extras to kickstart the decompression.

Making Yourself a Priority

If, like me, you tense up at the thought of check-in crowds and crammed-together charter seating, consider an upgrade that streamlines the travel process.

Transat Holiday's Options Plus ensured our group priority boarding, roomy up-front seats in which work-stiff shoulders could relax immediately, priority unloading of our luggage when we landed, and pronto transportation to our hotel via private vehicle.

The Luxe Life

Nothing sets a relaxation mood faster than complimentary chilled champagne and fresh fruit in an airy room with overstuffed cushions and a plushly appointed bed.

Welcome to the Excellence Playa Mujeres in Cancun, Mexico.

This is a five-star hotel akin to New York five-star, only on a much better beach.

Services at Aiile, the adult-only hotel's impressive spa, banish the remnants of work-related fatigue and nine restaurants offer fare worthy of the term gourmet.

Keep it coming

At the Royal Hideaway in Riviera Maya, meandering paths branch off to a number of cheerful two-storey Colonial-style villas with open centre courtyards.

Skilled spa therapists again reduce us to mellow Jell-O. Outside, the atmosphere has a bit more of a party vibe than the Excellence Playa Mujeres.

A buff instructor encourages water-aerobics participation to catchy dance tunes. We join in and enjoy poolside snacks and drinks. This is the life.

For the boys

- **Workouts** At the resorts in Transat Holiday's Luxury Collection, there's plenty of stuff for dudes to do while you enjoy quality girly time. Well-equipped hotel gyms offer workouts.
- **Sports.** If the beach is calling, volleyball nets stand at the ready for a rousing game, and rows of jet-skis gleam in the sunlight, as do colourful lineups of kayaks, and sailboats. Parasailing, windsurfing, deep-sea diving or snorkeling are also options. At the Excellence Playa Mujeres, a gorgeous 18-hole Greg Norman signature golf course awaits.

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The fastest way to creative creations

The panini press does more than make sandwiches It creates delicious (and quick) appetizers and desserts

MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This Countertop Napoleon is made in four simple steps.

The panini press is most often used to make pressed sandwiches.

Now these user-friendly appliances are being employed to create creative appetizers and desserts that look as impressive as they taste.

You can buy an electric panini press for as little as $40, or as much $300; the models around $100 often offer the most versatility at the best price point.

Most of the clam-shaped devices have ridges (though some are flat and griddle-like) and heat up on both the top and bottom grill plates, so they cook things really fast.

Countertop Napoleons

Who knew a panini press and a package of frozen puff pastry could be combined to create such a light and elegant dessert?

Best yet, the whole thing comes together in little time and with even less mess. You simply thaw the puff pastry (available in the grocer's freezer section), cut it into squares, then throw it on the panini press. Cooking the pastry on a panini press makes for perfectly golden, crisp and gently puffed flaky layers.

Once your pastry layers are cooked, you layer them with whipped cream (you can use purchased if you want to make this dish even faster and easier) and fresh berries.

The result is a dessert to rival restaurant offerings.

Preparation:

1. Heat a panini press or countertop grill.
2. Cut each sheet of puff pastry into nine 3-by-3-inch (7.5-by-7.5-cm) squares. Working in batches, to fit your press at once, cook pastry squares with the cover set gently down on them 3 to 4 minutes or until lightly browned and cooked through. Transfer squares to plate to cool; set aside.
3. In bowl, using electric mixer, whip cream until stiff peaks form. Fold in sour cream, orange marmalade and honey.
4. Spread layer of whipped cream over 6 of the pastry squares. Top each with berries, then another square of pastry. Repeat with another layer of whipped cream, fruit and a third pastry square. Finish Napoleon with a final layer of cream, then fruit. Dust with icing sugar.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients:

- 1 pkg (450 g) frozen butter puff pastry sheets, thawed
- 1 cup (250 mL) 35% whipping cream
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) sour cream
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) orange marmalade
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) honey
- 12 oz (340 g) fresh raspberries
- Icing sugar

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Small start-ups offer opportunity

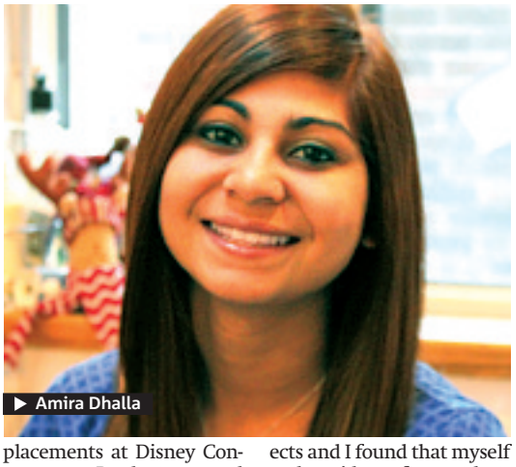
STUDENT VOICE

AMIRA DHALLA
TALENTEGG.CA

Having always had a flair for marketing, I went into university thinking I knew exactly what I wanted to do when I graduated: work for a consumer packaged goods (CPG) company. While completing my degree in business at Wilfrid Laurier University, I was able to partake in the co-op program that allowed me to gain real world experience.

I was fortunate to get placements at Disney Consumer Products and Unilever, both great CPG companies. Though I loved the brands and products that I worked on, I never felt in control of my projects and I found that myself and my ideas often got lost.

SUBMITTED


▶ Amira Dhalla

It was my third co-op term at QuickPlay Media that really opened my eyes to the start-up environment. I excelled in the small environment and felt like I was contributing to the company's bottom line.

I grew up believing that the more popular the brand and the company, the better the opportunity to learn and succeed. However, through my co-op experiences, I learned that there are equal, if not greater, learning opportunities to be had in smaller, start-up companies.

I did some research on people who I had admired and realized that they were all entrepreneurs who had formed or been a part of a start-up. It was these people who had learned the most by going against the grain and taking risks. Upon graduating, I simultaneously took two different job positions at two very different start-ups.

Where Amira is now

I am currently working as a Community Manager at My City Lives (mycitylives.com), a digital platform for individuals to share stories and experiences about their city through videos.

I am very passionate about Toronto and, in my job, I am able to help showcase why my city and the people are great. I love my job and I'm thankful to all my previous experiences that have led me to where I am today.

Key take-aways from Amira's school-to-work transition

• Take advantage of internship and co-op programs offered by your school. Your school's existing relationships with some of the world's biggest and best companies will help you get invaluable work experience before you even graduate.

• Pay attention to how you feel about the style of work you're expected to do and ask yourself if it's your ideal work environment. If it's not, try out other opportunities until you find something you like.

• Don't discount small businesses and start-ups: They often allow even young, inexperienced employees to contribute their ideas and can give you much more responsibility and control over your work than larger companies.

TALENTEGG.CA, CANADA'S ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADS, WANTS TO HEAR YOUR STUDENT VOICE. SHARE IT AT TALENTEGG.CA.

Re-thinking the way we create

For the third year in a row, Vancouver's Langara College and advertising agency Rethink are offering an $18,000 scholarship to aspiring art directors and designers. The lucky winner will receive full tuition to Langara College's two-year Communication and Ideation program as well as an internship at Rethink.

Entrants are invited to submit a black hardcover sketchbook that showcases their creativity. The winner will then be selected by Rethink's creative directors, along with members of Langara's faculty. The deadline is July 1.

Contest information, and this year's video, are online at rethinkcanada.com/scholarship.

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HANDOUT

▶ Jenkins Electric was honoured by the Business Development Bank of Canada as one of 11 of the country's most successful young entrepreneurs.

Canada's leaders of new business

The Business Development Bank of Canada honoured 11 of the country's most successful young entrepreneurs at the 23rd edition of its Young Entrepreneur Awards (YEA) held in Saskatoon yesterday.

The YEA winners were chosen based on the originality of their business concept, as well as their company's success, growth potential and social involvement. The provincial and territorial selection committees also considered the entrepreneur's, the number of years he or she has been in business and any special challenges that were overcome. Among the winners were:

Mark Kohaykewych, 33, Todd Jenkyns, 34, and Peter Chedley, 34
Jenkyns Electric Ltd
Winnipeg

Mark, Todd and Peter founded Jenkyns Electric to bring energy-smart power solutions to industrial customers in Winnipeg and remote communities in northern Manitoba. Their company stands out in a crowded marketplace because of its solid reputation for customer service and environmentally friendly practices. **METRO**

HOW TO FIGHT BACK

WORKPLACE LAW

DANIEL LUBLIN
DAN@CANADA
EMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM
TWITTER: @DANLUBLIN

Employees often author their own workplace misfortunes. Few take advantage of this country's lenient labour laws and fewer challenge their employer's decisions, however unjust. Most will just complain. But if you have an inclination to fight back, here are some key do's and do not's:

Do not expect that promotional decisions will be made fairly. There is no legal requirement to promote the longest serving or most meritorious employee.

Do protest your employer's decisions that you disagree with, such as a poor performance appraisal, and do it in writing. Failing to respond simply conveys to your employer that you agreed with its decision or at least that you did not care enough to complain.

Do not sign contracts without negotiating first. Employers deliberately prepare employer friendly agreements, since most people will just agree to what they are given, happy to get anything at all.

ISTOCK PHOTOS

▶ There are some do's and dont's to fighting back.

Do be wary of skeletons in your closet. Just about every employee has one. If yours is so bad you can't risk it being exposed, then do not challenge your employer's decision to dismiss you, however unjust. Some workplace skeletons, although not harmful to your case, will ultimately be harmful to your career.

Do not leave agreements to handshakes or memory. Employers conveniently "forget" about oral agreements once employees leave and courts often refuse to intervene without written evidence of a deal.

Do not assume your position is safe. No job is.

Do pick your battles prudently: In one recent case, the employee lost because he refused to complete an important assignment, mistakenly believing it was not part of his job.

Do not expect a court or your employer's sympathy when you challenge whether you should perform your work.

DANIEL LUBLIN IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP. HIS FULL ARTICLE CAN BE READ ONLINE AT METRONEWS.CA

Lightning strikes again

- Two late goals have Capitals on the verge of being knocked out
- Game 4 is tonight in Tampa

4	3
LIGHTNING	CAPITALS

Steven Stamkos and Ryan Malone scored 24 seconds apart in the third period and the streaking Tampa Bay Lightning beat Washington 4-3 to push the top-seeded Capitals to the brink of elimination in the Eastern Conference semifinals last night.

After winning twice in Washington, the Lightning returned home and rallied to take a commanding 3-0 series lead. Tampa Bay can advance to the conference finals with a victory at home tonight in Game 4.

Vincent Lecavalier and Sean Bergenheim also scored for the fifth-seeded Lightning, whose sixth straight post-season win gave them a commanding lead in the best-of-seven series. Tampa Bay hasn't lost since falling into a 3-1 hole against Pittsburgh in the first round.

Alex Ovechkin had a power-play goal and an assist for Washington, which led 3-2 heading into third period after Mike Knuble, John Carlson and Ovechkin scored in the second.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JOHN RAOUX/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Eric Brewer makes a move to get past Washington's Alex Ovechkin.

Coyotes

The NHL has exercised its option to take $25 million US from the city of Glendale to cover losses by the Phoenix Coyotes this season.

- The city had placed the money in escrow a year ago at the NHL's insistence to cover such losses if the sale of the team had not gone through by the end of this season.
- The NHL bought the team out of bankruptcy in September 2009 with the intention of finding a buyer to keep the team in Arizona.
- A proposed sale has been stalled by the threat of a lawsuit by the Goldwater Institute.

Bulls' Rose is NBA's youngest ever MVP

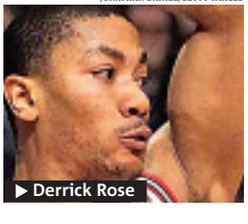
The NBA has made it official: Chicago Bulls guard Derrick Rose is the MVP.

Rose officially became the NBA's youngest MVP yesterday. He joins Michael Jordan as the only Bulls players to win the award after a spectacular season in which he led Chicago to the league's best record.

Rose, 22, got 113 first-place votes from a panel of media voters. Orlando's Dwight Howard finished second and Miami's LeBron James was third

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JONATHAN DANIEL/GETTY IMAGES



▶ Derrick Rose

Sports in brief

Lions cut loose Yonus Davis

CFL. The B.C. Lions have terminated the CFL contract of kick-return specialist Yonus Davis, who is facing drug charges in California.

Davis was the West Division finalist last season for the CFL's outstanding special teams player.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

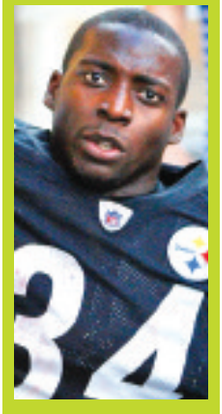
Court grants NFL request

NFL. A federal appeals court in the U.S. agreed yesterday to fast track the NFL's request to put its labour lockout in place until a new deal is finally worked out.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 sports

Quoted



"What kind of person celebrates death? It's amazing how people can HATE a man they have never even heard speak. We've only heard one side..."

A TWEET FROM PITTSBURGH STEELERS RUNNING BACK RASHARD MENDENHALL ABOUT THE REACTION TO OSAMA BIN LADEN'S DEATH. MENDENHALL WENT ON TO QUESTION THE EVENTS OF SEPT. 11, 2001, WRITING "I JUST HAVE A HARD TIME BELIEVING A PLANE COULD TAKE A SKYSCRAPER DOWN DEMOLITION."

5 drive

Bumper

On the TL's behind, there's a new bumper with built-in reflectors along with fresh taillights, trunk-lid trim and exhaust outlets.

Besides the front, the rest of the TL's physical presence remains pretty much static, save for a new selection of standard and optional multi-spoke wheels.

Interior

Further refinements can be found inside the passenger area with upgraded trim, available ventilated front seats and an optional voice-recognition sound system that can store up to 3,500 songs on a 15-gigabyte hard drive.

As usual, the TL, even in base form, arrives as a well-turned-out vehicle, but there are a number of significant extra-cost features on the menu. The Technology Package includes a navigation system with traffic and weather updates, 440-watt ELS-brand sound system, premium leather-covered seats and keyless push-button start.

Engine

Continuing on is the base 280-horsepower 3.5-litre V6 (which sports new friction-reducing pistons for 2012) and the optional 305-horsepower 3.7-litre V6.

However, Acura has swapped out the previous standard five-speed automatic transmission for a six-speed. The name of the game here is fuel economy and Acura reports that the 3.5 is now rated at 10.4 l/100 km in the city and 6.8 on the highway.

▶ After a daring redesign for the 2009 model year, Acura clawed back the more controversial styling elements, such as the some-would-say-bizarre rear finish panel on the trunk. If you don't know what we're talking about, then the design change worked.

New nose is good news

MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

Staying a step or two ahead of the competition can be a risky move, especially if you manufacture cars for a living.

Sign off on a decidedly different design and the distance between success and failure can be just a nip, tuck, or crease away.

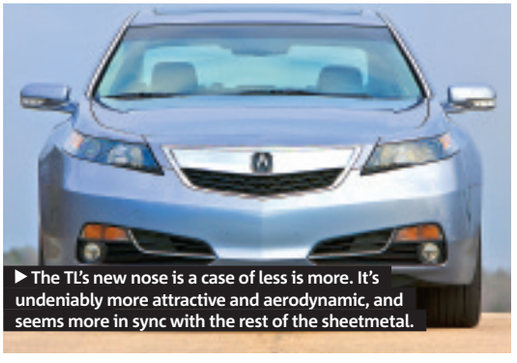
Take the TL, for example. Acura's sporty sedan has always ranked high with buyers for its combination of spaciousness, styling and performance, all at an attractive price point.

However, the car's 2009-model-year makeover for the upscale-Honda-division's top-selling sedan garnered less-than-favourable reviews, particularly for the oddly-shaped, shield-like grille and a bumper that resembled a ship's prow.

So, for the 2012 model year, the stylists have taken a scalpel to that bit of frontal daring-do and also completed numerous other modifications throughout the vehicle.

On the road, the TL, which starts at about $41,400 including destination charges, rides and drives pretty much like the previous edition and exhibits the same excellent road manners and interior refinement that has made it such a popular choice over the years.

Now with a host of subtle, but significant, improvements in design and content, the TL will no doubt have broader appeal.

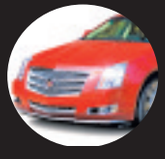


▶ The TL's new nose is a case of less is more. It's undeniably more attractive and aerodynamic, and seems more in sync with the rest of the sheetmetal.

▶ Swoopy, blended features and protruding instrument pods highlight the TL's comfortable interior, but the silver foil-like trim would be much better if it were stitched leather.

By comparison

Cadillac CTS sedan
Base price: $38,600
Good-looking car has put Caddy back on the map. 556-hp CTS-V impresses.



Lincoln MKZ
Base price: $40,000
Ford Fusion-based model offers AWD plus very thrifty hybrid version.

Lexus ES 350
Base price: $43,000
Lots of standard content fitted on ES, along with an arms-length option list.

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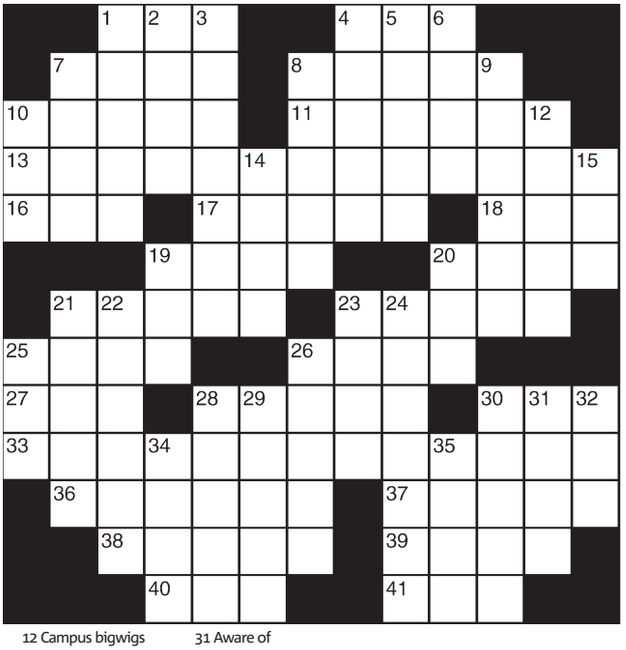
Acura TL

What you should know about the 2012 Acura TL:

- **Types:** Four-door front- /all-wheel-drive entry-luxury sedan.
- **Engine (hp):** 3.5-litre DOHC V6 (280); 3.7-litre DOHC V6 (305).
- **Transmission:** Six-speed automatic; six-speed manual (opt. on 3.7).
- **Market position:** Among the crop of luxury-oriented sedans, the TL's distinguished reputation for providing a wealth of standard equipment at a relatively down-to-earth price helps it attract a loyal and enthusiastic following.
- **Stats:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 10.4/6.8 (3.5).

Crossword



Across

1 Commercials
4 "Doo" follower
7 First victim
8 Acrylic fiber
10 Scent
11 Wallowed (in)
13 Sofa, recliner, ottoman, etc.
16 New Guinea port
17 Antimacassar
18 Spotted, a la Tweety
19 Intend
20 Arm bone
21 Cricket, for one
23 Performs high-tech surgery
25 Sonic —
26 Scoff
27 Elev.
28 Ladd and Alda
30 Shemp's brother
33 Guesswork
36 Jog sans togs
37 Gambling game
38 Surpass
39 Kill a bill
40 French possessive
41 English cathedral city

Down

1 Overhead
2 Actress Moore
3 Smear tactics
4 Slobber
5 Metallic blend
6 Actress Celeste
7 Met melody
8 Utah politico Hatch
9 Get snug and cozy
10 The whole enchilada
12 Campus bigwigs
14 Grownup kid
15 Old airline initials
19 Mid-May honoree
20 Work with
21 Cobbler's supply
22 Spud
23 Chain part
24 Exculpate
25 Evil
26 "King of Pop," in headlines
28 Mountain ridge
29 Begins
30 Thurber's dreamer Walter
31 Aware of
32 Id counterpart
34 Tom-tom, e.g.
35 Christmas refrain

▶ Yesterday's answer

A	C	N	E	■	C	I	D	■	M	U	F	F
D	R	A	G	■	D	N	A	■	O	S	L	O
D	O	N	G	■	R	O	B	I	N	S	O	N
S	W	A	N	S	O	N	■	B	A	R	E	D
■	■	■	O	H	M	■	V	I	M	■	■	■
G	O	R	G	E	■	M	A	D	I	S	O	N
A	B	A	■	■	J	E	T	■	■	A	R	E
S	I	M	P	S	O	N	■	L	U	C	R	E
■	■	■	O	P	T	■	P	A	P	■	■	■
S	T	A	I	R	■	J	A	C	K	S	O	N
T	E	N	N	Y	S	O	N	■	E	C	R	U
A	L	O	T	■	E	K	E	■	E	A	S	T
Y	E	N	S	■	E	E	L	■	P	R	O	S

Sudoku

4		5				9		1
	8	9	4		1	2	3	
7								4
			1		6			
	6			2			4	
			8		3			
9								5
	4	7	5		8	1	9	
8		1				3		2

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Q,
Sorry hon. I love my girl. She deserves my heart and has been there for 3 yrs now, we are going to grow old together. Goodbye & good luck. **FROM A**

My Crush,
I would like to tell you what you know already, hold your hand and know that u love me as much as i do. But its complicated when the fear of having ur heart broken is stronger than you. Therefore, reassure me and give me a chance and i promise you that your heart will be safe with me
From **VANESSA**

Nadia, Your smile is my sunrise, your kiss is my sunset. Thank you for being the most wonderful woman,friend,mother,wife and companion.Thank you for standing by me. I love you. Your husband **JORGE**

A look at the weather

Jenna Khan, Weather Specialist

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Min 5° Max 12°	Min 4° Max 15°	Min 5° Max 19°

"Weather impacts everything we do. Providing the information you need before you head out that door and take on the day is the best part of my morning." **WEEKDAYS 6AM**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You need to make changes in the way you use your resources.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 The planets in their courses will make it easy for you to excel over the next few days.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 No matter how bad things might seem at the moment, they will get better very soon.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Even if things go wrong today, it won't stop you from believing that your life is blessed. It is.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Don't do things just to impress others. Do things that mean something to you personally.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Get away from your usual environment for a while. The world is yours to explore.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 If you don't do something about overspending, the consequences could be dire.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 You won't get far under your own steam today, so ask for help.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Make sure you're on top of what you have to do and that you do an excellent job of it.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Focus on the one aim that means more than anything.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 The only way out of your predicament is to identify your problem and do something.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. Shout if you have to. Don't let others drown out your voice.

SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

SUNDAY ALAMBA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LEE JIN-MAN/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

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